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**ABSTRACT**

The invention relates to a method for changing the unwinding direction of wound laps (W, W1) supplied in a temporally successive manner by a delivery station (1) in order to form a group of wound laps (WG) in which the face sides of adjacent wound laps (W) are provided with the same distance (a) and the longitudinal axes (LA) of the wound laps (W) are disposed in one line. In practice it may be necessary to arrange the preparatory machine for producing a wound lap (W) with respect to the combing machine group to be operated in such a way that the wound laps supplied by the preparatory machine are provided with an unwinding direction in the ejected unwinding direction other than is required in the downstream combing machine. It is therefore necessary to rotate the wound lap (e.g. by 90° or 180°), with the division of a winding group being maintained.

It is therefore proposed the wound laps (W) supplied by the delivery station (1) are displaced stepwise transversally to their direction of delivery by means of a receiver (41, 42) of a rotating apparatus (30), by means of which they are rotated in a plane in which the longitudinal axis (LA) of the wound lap (W) is disposed and the wound laps are thereafter displaced from the zone of the receiver (42) in the direction of their longitudinal axis (LA).

(Fig. 3)